



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Flagstaff Area National Monuments

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## Flagstaff Area National Monuments News Release

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### Flagstaff Area National Monuments Will Increase Entrance & Wupatki Crack-in-Rock Program Fees Beginning October 1, 2015

Flagstaff, AZ – Starting on October 1, 2015, the Flagstaff Area National Monuments: Sunset Crater Volcano, Walnut Canyon and Wupatki, will increase entrance fees for visitors in order to fund important maintenance and improvement projects within the park.

#### **Current per Person Fee Structure**

- The current per person entrance fee at Walnut Canyon is \$5 for a seven day pass.
- The current per person entrance fee is \$5 for a seven day pass which applies to both Sunset Crater Volcano and Wupatki, regardless if a person arrives via a bicycle, a motorcycle, or in a vehicle.
- The Flagstaff Area National Monuments Annual Pass is currently \$25.
- The current program fee for the Wupatki Crack-in-Rock is \$50 per person.

#### **New Fee Structure Beginning October 1, 2015**

- Walnut Canyon will increase to \$8 per person for a seven day pass.
- Sunset Crater Volcano and Wupatki National Monuments will be instituting a per vehicle fee of \$20/vehicle for a seven day pass good for both monuments. This will be a “flat rate” entrance fee, regardless of the number of passengers.
- Sunset Crater Volcano and Wupatki National Monuments will be instituting a \$10.00 per person rate, for those arriving by foot or by bicycle and a \$15.00 rate for those arriving by motorcycle.
- The Flagstaff Area National Monuments Annual Pass will be \$40. Note that this pass allows unlimited visits to all three monuments for one year from purchase.
- The Wupatki Crack-in-Rock program will be \$75 per person.

“This modest increase in fees will allow us to continue to protect, preserve and share the special places at the Flagstaff Area National Monuments with current visitors and future generations,” said Flagstaff Area Monuments Superintendent Kayci Cook Collins. “After carefully considering the

impact of a fee increase on visitors and community members, we came to the conclusion that this is the right course of action to improve facilities and services important to visitors.”

Entrance fees have supported a wide range of projects that improve the park and visitor experiences, including rehabilitating trails and trailhead signs, developing and installing exhibits in visitor centers, improving park water systems, providing ranger-led programs, and improving ADA accessibility. Additional revenue from this fee increase will help to enhance and improve visitor facilities, increase interpretive opportunities and conduct preservation and protection of monument resources.

In the fall of 2014, the National Park Service conducted a nationwide review of entrance fees. To solicit public input, the Flagstaff Area National Monuments launched a civic engagement campaign in December 2014.

During the public comment period, the park received 18 formal comments. The majority of these were in favor of the fee increase, particularly because the funds stay at the monuments and are used to support facilities and services that directly benefit visitors. A few comments opposed increase the fees in the current economic climate. Visitor comments also prompted a change from the per person rate to the per vehicle rate for the combined entry to Sunset Crater Volcano and Wupatki National Monuments to reflect the road-based visitor experiences of traveling between visitor centers and use areas.

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